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A determined battle has been waged for a long time on this matter behind the scenes of the Warsaw Politburo. For a long time Aleksander Zawadzki, an NKVD colonel, who, like Marshal Rokossovskiy, enjoys the full confidence of Moscow, has been the candidate for premier. But the leader of the party, Boleslaw Bierut, does not like strongly individualistic people around him. Bierut will not easily give up Cyrankiewicz, since the latter is a willing tool. Zawadzki, however, with the backing of the omnipresent NKVD, can probably get the Cyrankiewicz post despite Bierut.

Whatever the outcome, the imposition of a Soviet Constitution upon Poland marks the formal end of one period and the start of another. An open and intensive economic battle and a complete political purge are now starting in Poland. The ominous German problem foreshadows danger not only for the West but also for the "native" Communists. A strong hand is needed for this affair.

The fact that the Polish Constitution, like all Satellite constitutions, makes no detailed definition of state boundaries opens all kinds of possibilities for political manipulations in the future.

SPECULATE ON POSSIBLE CHANGES IN WARSAW REGIME -- Mannheim, Cotatnic Wiadomosci, 4 May 52

Warsaw -- Recently, officials who in the first postwar years played small roles have been stepping out as spokesmen of the government and the PZPR (Polska Zjednoczona Partja Robotnicza, United Polish Workers Party).

Boleslaw Bierut alone, of the leading party personalities, has retained his position. The party press gave extensive coverage to his 60th birthday.

From among his closest collaborators have disappeared not only such people as the Gomulka group, who were eliminated as "Titoists" and "nationalists," but also those faithful to the party line and long-standing members of the Politburo such as Jakub Berman, Hilary Minc, and Roman Zambrowski, of whom less and less is heard.

Edward Ochab now conducts political meetings and demonstrations in place of Berman. Deputy chairman Stefan Jedrychowski, and not Minc, presented the economic plan for 1952. Third deputy chairman Hilary Chelchowski, and not Zambrowski, is the spokesman for agrarian political affairs.

Communists who have passed into the shadows still retain their positions. In Warsaw, different explanations are given for their disappearance from the political stage. Berman, Minc, and Zambrowski all are Jews, and after the removal from power of the Slansky group in Czechoslovakia under openly anti-Semitic slogans, leading Communist Jews cannot push themselves into the foreground.

Another interpretation is that the present unfavorable economic situation in Poland, especially in regard to food, tends to make the economic politicians withdraw from the spotlight until better results are achieved.

NOTE CHANGES IN POLAND -- Tel Aviv, Kronika Tygodniowa, 18 Jun 52

There is a great difference between the Poland of 2 years ago and Poland today.

A friend who had just returned from Poland and who had never taken an interest in politics told me that none of his former acquaintances would speak to him. The police visited him often.

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The country awaits important events. There is much talk of a great purge which will affect the great and the small.

The food situation has become much worse, and scapegoats are being sought, including Minc and Berman. Formerly, it was said that Berman was the only Polish Communist who could join the K. Lin at any time. Today, Berman cannot talk in person even with Rokossovskiy.

A purge is being carried out in the army also. The remaining Polish career officers are disappearing and are being replaced by a new generation faithful to the party. High-ranking officers are either Poles educated in the USSR or Russians.

There seems to be opposition in the People's Democracies in the form of national Communism, on the order of Titoism. As long as there is peace, the opposition is of no danger to the regime, but with the outbreak of war it could be a menace. This anti-Communist front in Eastern Europe threatens the USSR more than the Communist front threatens the rear of the West.

MAJOR DIPLOMATIC CHANGES -- Tel Aviv, Kronika Tygodniowa, 18 Jun 52

Consul Tee, who for 2 years has carried out the functions of Polish consul-general in Tel Aviv, is returning to Warsaw to an important position. Tee, who was in Palestine long before the Israeli insurrection, belonged to the Zwiazek Patriotow Polskich (Union of Polish Patriots) which opposed the London Polish government and General Anders. Perhaps he will have more luck in using his knowledge of Hebrew than his predecessor, Loc, of whom there has been no news for the last 6 months.

The question now is whether Poland will finally establish an embassy in Israel or, as at present, will be satisfied with a consulate. Israel has maintained an embassy in Warsaw for 4 years, while Poland stops at a consulate. This is contrary to international custom and should be remedied. All that is known now is that the next Polish representative in Israel will not be a Jew.

SEES JEWISH POLISH OFFICIALS BEING SHOWN INTO BACKGROUND -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 28 Apr 52

Vienna, 1 April -- When Boleslaw Bierut, Polish President and Communist leader, recently celebrated his 60th birthday, the party's congratulations were extended by a party functionary who was little known a few years ago, a former metalworker from Krakow named Edward Ochab. Since Ochab's entry into a Politburo, after the fall of former Secretary-General Gomulka, he has always been the one to deliver speeches on "ideological" clarifications of the party program.

Jakub Berman, who previously served alone as the Politburo's theoretician, has been stepping more and more into the background during the past few years, and Gomulka's chosen successor in the cabinet, mine leader Zawadzki, is seriously ill. The purpose behind the economic plan for the year was stated before the Parliament not by the leading national economist of the government and the Politburo, Hilary Minc, but by Dr Stefan Jedrychowski, who now regularly appears as the spokesman for the government in matters of the national economy. Minc still occupies his post as deputy chairman and coordinating economist, but now appears publicly only rarely.

Party Secretary and Politburo member Roman Zambrowski no longer speaks as in former years of the awkward situation of Polish agriculture, which recently necessitated tighter controls in food rationing, but rather the speeches are given by the peasant agitator, Hilary Chelchowski, who has been advanced to

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deputy chairman, or by one of the ministers of agriculture. There has been complete silence concerning the energetic Lomkowski, who during the early postwar years held a number of important party and government positions.

How can one explain this shift among the leading Communist figures, of whom from the first group only Bierut has been able to strengthen his position since the end of the war? Many observers in Warsaw point out the fact that the politicians who have faded into the background, Berman, Minc, and Zambrowski, are all Jews, and link their decline to the currents of anti-Semitism in the Satellite states. This trend has been observed most clearly in Czechoslovakia in, for example, the "Slansky affair." It is presumed by Western Europeans that Marshal Rokossovski is the one who introduced this policy in Warsaw, but the selection of certain of his closest associates contradicts this assumption. Other interpretations are based on the premise that men such as Minc in the present extraordinarily critical economic situation in Poland are not particularly disposed personally to be associated with the unpopular measures intended to reduce consumption and to step up production and that Berman would prefer that the adapting of science, literature, theater, etc., to the Russian model be carried out by men with genuinely Polish names. -- I.B.

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